Nature Parks

1242. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to develop Nature Parks in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, how many such parks have been developed, so far;

(c) whether Government have decided to provide financial assistance to private parties for the development of Nature Park;

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such decision has been taken by the Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

Clearance of Rajhara-Raoghat rail line project

†1243. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has issued NOC for the proposed rail line project from Rajhara to Raoghat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry has not accorded sanction for station building so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the area of the land of farmers which would be acquired for laying the said rail line;

(e) the quantum of total amount to be incurred on the said project and by when the work of laying rail line and construction of building would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Ministry

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of Environment and Forest has granted in-principal approval for diversion of 259.54 hectares of forest land for construction of Dalli Rajhara-Raoghat Rail Line Project in Chhattisgarh on 09.09.2005. The permission for construction of station buildings on forest land has not been accorded as it was not clear from the proposal if the stations would be located within the forest area proposed for diversion or additional forest land would be required. However, the State Government has been requested on 26.12.2005 to submit its recommendations/comments in this regard. The recommendations/comments of the State Government have not been received. As per the details given in the proposal of the State Government, about 297.0179 hectares of private land will also be required, and a total cost of Rs. 304 crores is proposed to be incurred on the construction of the said rail line. The Ministry only grants approval for diversion of forest land for non-forestry use, and implementation of such projects is the responsibility of the concerned State Government and the user agency.

Forest land in Madhya Pradesh

†1244. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to increase the forest land in Madhya Pradesh for bringing improvement in environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for regeneration of degraded forest-lands and adjoining areas through two-tier decentralized structure of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level in the country including State of Madhya Pradesh. As on 06.02.2006, 47 FDA projects in the State of Madhya Pradesh have been sanctioned to treat a project area of 75,500 hectares through 1,472 JFMCs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.